

REMARKS

Fig. 11 was objected to for failing to include a legend such as "Prior Art." A revised Fig. 11 labeled as "Prior Art" is enclosed herewith.

Claims 1-19 are pending, including independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16-19. Claim 16 remains allowed, but the Examiner continues to reject the remaining claims over Kaplan. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner relies on incorrect interpretations of Kaplan and improperly ignores language in Applicant's claims that distinguishes over Kaplan.

The Examiner again rejected claims 1-15 and 17-19 under 35 § 102(e) as anticipated by Kaplan. However, Applicant submits that his invention is patentable over Kaplan and has further amended independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 17-19 to clarify certain distinctions over Kaplan, as explained in more detail below.

Applicant's invention is generally directed to more effective ways of presenting POI information on the display of a vehicle navigation system, and in particular on a displayed map image. Independent claims 1 and 17 describe a method and a system, respectively, for displaying POIs on a map image in each of a plurality of categories by using a distinctive icon for each category, and then displaying the particular type of POI within a category when a specific POI icon is selected on the map image. Thus, the use of a common icon for a category facilitates recognition of the locations on the map image of various POIs in a particular category, yet the particular type of POI within the category can be found easily, when desired, in an orderly fashion.

This is not disclosed by Kaplan. Kaplan describes a system and method that allows a user to specify a type of point of interest at which the user wishes to make an intermediate stop while on route to a final destination (see Abstract; col. 1, line 66 to col. 2, line 9). Kaplan does not provide distinct icons for different POI categories displayed on a map image as does Applicant's invention. To the contrary, Kaplan simply displays a generic mark (i.e., an "X") at the location of all POIs (see Figs. 3, 16).

In his rejection, the Examiner continues to equate the distinctive icons in Applicant's claims to the different category names in Figs. 5-9 of Kaplan. This is incorrect. Figs. 5-9 of Kaplan merely illustrate menus that include names of POI

categories and sub-categories, but do not show distinctive POI icons displayed on a map image or that a POI icon on a map image can be selected in order to display the particular type of POI within the category. [On the other hand, Figs. 3 and 16 of Kaplan, which show map images having an “X” at every POI location, do not teach different POI icons for each category.] To further clarify this distinction, Applicant has further amended claims 1 and 17 to recite “displaying the map image including POIs located on the map, wherein POIs from two or more categories can be displayed on the map, POIs in each category are displayed on the map by a common POI icon, and the POI icons displayed on the map for different categories are visually distinct.”

Independent claims 6 and 18 describe a method and a system, respectively, for displaying by a common icon on a map image only those POIs in a category having a preset type, and displaying the type of POI when a specific POI icon is selected. This embodiment provides the advantages of the first embodiment described above and, in addition, reduces unnecessary clutter on the display by not displaying POI icons for types of POI in a category that the user knows beforehand he or she does not want. Claims 6 and 18 have been further amended similar to claims 1 and 17 and distinguish over Kaplan for at least the same reasons explained above for claims 1 and 17. Particularly, Applicant has further amended claims 6 and 18 to recite “POIs of said preset type of POI are displayed on the map by a common POI icon, and the POI icons displayable on the map for different POI categories are visually distinct.”

Independent claims 11 and 19 describe a method and a system, respectively, for displaying an index or list containing at least one POI located on the map image within an area indicated by a cursor as well as a location on the map image corresponding to a cursor instructing point, and selecting a particular POI or the location corresponding to the cursor instruction point from the index. This embodiment is useful when the scale of the displayed map is small or the density of POIs is large, so that a list of POIs within a map area designated by the cursor and a location on the map corresponding to the cursor instructing point itself (e.g., at the cross intersection of a cursor) are displayed, and the desired POI or the location corresponding to the cursor instructing point can be reliably selected by a user. Claims 11 and 19 have been further amended to clarify the

invention. Particularly, Applicant has amended claims 11 and 19 to recite the cursor indicating a “predetermined area on the map”, and to recite “a location on the map corresponding to the cursor instructing point.”

Kaplan does not disclose this subject matter. The Examiner points to Figs. 5-9 and 16 of Kaplan as showing a cursor indicating a predetermined area and a cursor instructing point, but Applicant disagrees. Figures 5-9 show various menus for selecting POIs, but show no cursor that is movable relative to a displayed map (as recited in claims 11 and 19), much less any details concerning the cursor such as indicating an area on a map and having an instructing point identifying a location on the map. Fig. 16 does show a map image and a circle 268 that can be moved by a user to highlight a point of interest. However, Fig. 16 and the accompanying text do not disclose that the circle 268 has a cursor instructing point, and do not describe or suggest that an index is displayed which comprises the name(s) of at least one POI located in a predetermined area indicated by the cursor and a location corresponding to a cursor instructing point.

Applicant notes that in the “Response to Arguments” section of the Office Action, the Examiner purports to be responding to arguments filed on April 23, 2003. This is confusing because the last paper filed by Applicant in connection with this application was dated November 14, 2003. Applicant requests clarification.

In the same section, the Examiner allegedly identifies arguments made by Applicant and then attacks them. However, Applicant did not make the stated arguments in his previous response. Applicant’s remarks were more detailed than what the Examiner states, and the Examiner has not addressed the actual remarks made by Applicant.

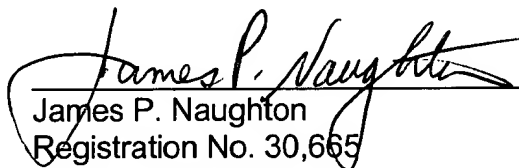
In particular, Applicant’s statements concerning Figs. 5-9 and 16 of Kaplan are repeated and amplified above, and have not been addressed by the Examiner. Further, Applicant did not argue in his last response that “Kaplan does not even disclose a cursor,” as the Examiner asserts. In fact, Applicant acknowledged that Fig. 16 of Kaplan shows “a circle 268 that can be moved by a user to highlight a point of interest.” However, as Applicant pointed out in relation to Applicant’s claims

11 and 19, Fig. 16 and the accompanying text of Kaplan do not disclose that the circle 268 has a cursor instructing point, and do not describe or suggest that an index is displayed which comprises the name(s) of at least one POI located in a predetermined area indicated by the cursor and a location corresponding to a cursor instructing point. The Examiner has not addressed this point as well.

Conclusion And Request For Interview

In summary, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-15 and 17-19, as amended herein, are patentable over the cited art and requests reconsideration and allowance of same. If the Examiner intends to maintain his rejections of the claims over Kaplan, however, Applicant's undersigned representative requests a telephone interview with the Examiner and his supervisor before the next Office Action is issued.

Respectfully submitted,


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